

COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON

HELD:

Tuesday, February 16th, 2021

LOCATION:

VIA ZOOM

Maria McCool, RPR

Official Court Reporter

C O U N C I L M E M B E R S :

WILLIAM GAUGHAN, PRESIDENT

KYLE DONAHUE, VICE PRESIDENT

MARK MCANDREW

JESSICA ROTHCHILD

THOMAS SCHUSTER

LORI REED, CITY CLERK

KATHY CARRERA, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

KEVIN HAYES, COUNCIL SOLICITOR

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. GAUGHAN: Please remain standing for a moment of silent reflection for our service men and women throughout the world and also for those who have passed away in our community.

Also let us take a moment of silence for all of the people in our community, in our country and our world who have passed away from the Coronavirus. This pandemic has turned our world upsidedown. But we must remain hopeful and strong.

We continue to pray for the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they have protection and peace.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, let us stick together, endure together, mourn together and in place of our anxiety, let us have hope and peace. Thank you. Roll call, please.

MS CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

1 MR. SCHUSTER: Present.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

3 MR. MCANDREW: Present.

4 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

5 DR. ROTHCHILD: Here.

6 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

10 MR. DONAHUE: I would like to make a
11 motion to take from table file of the Council
12 No. 43, 2021.

13 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

14 MR. GAUGHAN: There's a motion on
15 the floor and a second to take from the table
16 file of the Council No. Number 43, 2021. This
17 piece is being taken from the table and placed
18 in Seventh Order for a final vote.

19 This piece of legislation amends the
20 2018 Action Plan by utilizing \$15,000 from the
21 Boys and Girls Club Park It Program to St.
22 Joseph's Center, Mother/Infant Program. On the
23 question? All those in favor signify by
24 saying aye.

25 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

1 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

2 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

3 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
5 ayes have it and so moved. Please dispense
6 with the reading of the minutes.

7 MS. REED: Thank you. THIRD ORDER.

8 3-A. MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON
9 LACKAWANNA HEALTH & WELFARE AUTHORITY
10 BOARD MEETING HELD DECEMBER 17, 2020.

11 3-B. MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON
12 MUNICIPAL RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF
13 DIRECTORS MEETING HELD JANUARY 9, 2021.

14 3-C. MINUTES OF THE SCRANTON
15 MUNICIPAL RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD OF
16 DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING HELD JANUARY 29,
17 2021.

18 3-D. CHECK RECEIVED FROM LACKAWANNA
19 COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,583.60 DATED
20 FEBRUARY 10, 2021 REGARDING COVID-19 RELIEF
21 BLOCK GRANT REIMBURSEMENT.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Are there any comments
23 on any of the Third Order items? If not,
24 received and filed. Do any Council members
25 have any announcements at this time?

1 MR. DONAHUE: I just have one. The
2 Lackawanna County Ageing Office is assisting
3 Lackawanna County residents with 65 and older
4 with making COVID vaccine appointments or to
5 cancel COVID appointments that might have been
6 made. This can be accessed by calling 211.
7 It's available to all county residents over the
8 age of 65. Thank you.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you, Kyle.
10 Anyone else?

11 MR. MCANDREW: I have one. So this
12 Saturday, February between, 11 and 1, the
13 Lackawanna County Federation of Democratic
14 Women will be hosting their annual petition
15 signing event. But they're also doing a food
16 drive which is pretty cool. So this will be at
17 Laceworks Tap and Grill. This is a
18 drivethrough event.

19 Like I said, they'll also be
20 collecting non-glass and non-perishable food
21 and also monetary donations to benefit the
22 United Neighborhood Center. That's all I have.

23 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Great. Anybody
24 else?

25 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, I want to

1 congratulate Nay Aug Park, the Valentines Day
2 food drive that they held last week. It sounds
3 like it was very successful. And there are a
4 lot of donations that they'll be able to
5 provide to the food pantries. So thank you to
6 them for hosting that food drive. And it
7 sounds like they're willing to hold some more
8 in the future.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Anyone
10 else? Okay, great. Mrs. Reed?

11 MS. REED: Thank you. FOURTH ORDER.
12 CITIZENS PARTICIPATION.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time would
14 someone please make a motion to accept public
15 comment from the following individuals: Fay
16 Franus and Marie Schumacher.

17 MR. DONAHUE: I make a motion to
18 accept public comment.

19 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

20 MR. GAUGHAN: There's been a motion
21 and a second to accept public comment. Mrs.
22 Reed, would you please read the comments into
23 the record?

24 MS. REED: Thank you. The first
25 submission is from Fay Franus as follows:

Council

I would appreciate it very much if you would find out why Scranton is still classified as a 2A city. I understand the census is not done yet but certainly even when the census is done there is no way it will include thousands and thousands more people to qualify as a 2A city.

Scranton should be classified appropriately according to population. It may require work but it needs to be followed up on and completed.

I do feel Scranton definitely is not a 2A city. Time to make it right.

Also I would like to know why you are not allowing the public to be able to zoom into the council meetings live to ask our questions and make our comments just as though we were there in person? Please tell us what we can do to make this happen.

Other government meetings have

1 people zoom in live. I would like an answer on
2 this tonight. As well as my question on
3 Scranton being a 2A city. Thank you
4

5 MS. REED: The second submission is
6 from Marie Schumacher as follows:
7

8 0 When will the public get to see
9 the 2019 Audit? Will 2020 Audit be on time?
10

11 0 As we are only four days shy of
12 the anniversary of the final approval required
13 to implement the 10-Year LERTA I am curious
14 about how this program is doing on
15 accomplishing the stated goal. It was touted
16 as a means of sparking new economic development
17 in the City. I request a monthly report of the
18 total number of LERTAs as well as a breakdown
19 by industrial, commercial and other business
20 property.
21

22 I have a question about the actual
23 life of this Ten-Year Program; for example, if
24 a property owner applies on the last day of the
25 ninth year of the Program is the property still

1 100% tax exempt for ten year or two years?

2
3 0 The Mayor and others have invited
4 out-of-town workers capable of working from
5 home to come to Scranton where the
6 cost-of-living might be lower than where they
7 are living. Which I understand has been
8 successful. Our wage and tripled Local Service
9 Taxes are paid by the Employer. When the
10 Employer is not in Scranton how do these
11 at-home employees make their contribution or do
12 they get a free ride.

13
14 (Concludes public comment letters as
15 submitted to Council.)

16
17 MS. REED: And that is all the
18 submissions for this evening. Thank you.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. On the
20 question?

21 MR. DONAHUE: On the question, just
22 to touch on two of Miss Schumacher's points,
23 just a correction there, the LERTA doesn't make
24 it -- doesn't make properties 100 percent tax
25 free. That's -- it would just be on any new

1 improvements. So there is still -- they're
2 still paying taxes on the land and then also
3 any existing, you know, existing structures
4 that were on the property before any
5 improvements were made.

6 And then on her second point
7 regarding the wage tax, that actually brings up
8 an interesting point. I think we should maybe
9 send a letter or an e-mail to Berkheimer asking
10 how they're adjusting, you know, to this new
11 normal in terms of our collection of wage tax.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Anyone else on the
13 question?

14 MR. MCANDREW: Yeah, I was going to
15 also just touch on the LTS Tax. I had a lot of
16 residents come to me also saying, you know, I
17 worked out of Scranton. I've been home for a
18 year. So do I have to pay it? Should I pay
19 it? So that's a good point maybe we should
20 look at. Thanks.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Anyone else?
22 Okay, just to respond to Miss Franus's question
23 and let me first say I appreciate Miss Franus
24 and Miss Schumacher's questions and anyone who
25 writes in.

1 As for the process of the Zoom
2 meetings, you know, we set these standards and
3 procedures way back when the pandemic started.
4 And, of course, I think I could speak for
5 everyone when I say that we would all like to
6 be back in chambers in City Council back in
7 City Hall.

8 And I'm very hopeful that we may be
9 able to get back in the summer or maybe the
10 fall depending on how the vaccination rollout
11 goes and what the numbers look like and when
12 it's deemed safe for the public, which is what
13 I'm most concerned about. The way that the
14 meetings are set up currently allows for people
15 to write their comments in whether it's via
16 U.S. mail.

17 You would send those to 340 North
18 Washington Avenue, second floor, City Hall
19 attention to our City Clerk, Lori Reed by 3
20 p.m., on Tuesday -- so the day of the meeting
21 or you can e-mail Lori, our City Clerk at
22 lreed@scrantonpa.gov with your comments.

23 And those comments are read into the
24 record. And I make it a point -- well, we all
25 make it a point to go through these comments

1 and to answer any of the questions that are
2 posed. And if we don't have answers to the
3 question then we make it a point to get those
4 questions to the appropriate department. And
5 when we get answers we report them back at
6 Council.

7 You know, it doesn't always happen
8 as quickly as we would like. But, you know,
9 we try our best to get that done. So again,
10 I'm hopeful that maybe by the summer or the
11 fall we could get back to normal.

12 And, Kyle, I don't know if you
13 covered this, but as to Miss Schumacher's
14 question on the 10 year abatement if a property
15 owner applies on the last day of the ninth year
16 of the program is the property still 100
17 percent tax exempt for 10 years.

18 It still extends out 10 years even
19 if (inaudible) the ninth year. So it's not --
20 it's not the other way around. So you do have
21 10 years from the day that you enter into the
22 program. And as Councilman Donahue said, it's
23 on the improvement. It's not on the whole
24 property.

25 And any of the other questions we

1 will -- we will get answers to. The one on the
2 audit, we all received a draft copy of the 2019
3 audit. Unfortunately, it's not ready for
4 public consumption yet. But I'm assuming that
5 it will be within the next week or two, two or
6 three weeks.

7 They have to have a meeting, an exit
8 interview type meeting with the administration.
9 When that happens and the audit is officially
10 released to Council, we'll put that in Third
11 Order as we have done in the past.

12 And under the Evans administration I
13 requested an exit interview or conference with
14 the auditor, which I would like to do again
15 this year. That was really helpful when we did
16 it last year. So I'd like to continue that.
17 Anyone else on the question?

18 MR. DONAHUE: And just to touch on
19 that too in terms of the audit for next year as
20 we have been told from now -- you know, at this
21 point we're still on track to have it done on
22 time. You know, they're still closing that 60
23 day period at the end of the year that would
24 reconcile everything from 2020. But audit prep
25 has started and, you know, and hopefully we get

1 it earlier this upcoming year.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you.

3 Anyone else on the question? All those in
4 favor signify by saying aye.

5 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

6 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

8 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
10 ayes have it and so moved. And now we do have
11 Mayor Cagnetti with us here tonight. So,
12 Mayor, thank you for coming. And I know you
13 wanted to update us on a few items and then
14 we'll open it up to any questions from Council.
15 Thank you, Mayor.

16 MAYOR COGNETTI: Thanks everyone.
17 Thanks for having me. On the audit, I did just
18 actually check in with the Business
19 Administrator earlier. It's possible it might
20 be published as early as Friday. So that's not
21 a promise. That's a hope.

22 But it could go as early as soon as
23 Friday. So hopefully we would get it done
24 Friday. If not, it should be very, very soon.
25 And then thank you, Councilman Donahue, for

1 pointing out that we're committed to this being
2 a far more scheduled process for this coming
3 year. Sorry, about the background noise. Give
4 me -- I'm sorry, life in COVID. Sorry about
5 that.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: Life on Zoom.

7 MAYOR COGNETTI: I know. I know.
8 Yes, so on the audit, hopefully Friday. We'll
9 see. And then I want to talk to you guys about
10 doing a joint letter, which we've seen this
11 movie before to our Congressional delegation
12 advocating for the American Rescue Plan that we
13 did I believe twice so far in the last year as
14 we've pushed and pushed for more funding for
15 cities, more funding for families, more funding
16 for small businesses.

17 Right now this week is a great time
18 for us to be advocating for that as the --
19 Biden's rescue plan is -- really is going
20 around Congress. What's in that is again,
21 which we -- I know we've all been advocating
22 for, there is funding directly for cities so
23 that we would have the opportunity not to have
24 a trickle-down funding from the feds to the
25 state to the county to us.

1 But to have direct funding that we
2 could together decide what to do with those
3 funds and how to recover from COVID as a
4 community together. So I will, Councilman
5 Gaughan, I sent you -- sent you the substance
6 and all work overnight. And then tomorrow I'll
7 work on getting you guys a draft. I think it
8 would be great for the six of us to send that
9 to our Congressional delegation in the next 48
10 hours.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Sure, yeah, makes
12 sense to me.

13 MAYOR COGNETTI: Great. I'll get
14 that draft to you. The refuse and real estate
15 bills are hitting inboxes. We actually just
16 got ours in the mail on my way downstairs from
17 the office. I know there are some questions
18 about that.

19 Councilman Gaughan, I think you
20 talked with Treasurer Sheridan today. We're
21 continuing to, you know, work through some of
22 these issues with the Single Tax Office. But
23 any feedback that you will get is really
24 helpful.

25 I think it's helpful to get that to

1 us and also simultaneously to the Single Tax
2 Office. There's some process things that we'd
3 like to see that seem to be a bit of a sticking
4 point. So I think it would be great if in
5 realtime you guys could be giving that feedback
6 to both the Single Tax Office and us. That
7 gives us the ability to really work on these
8 issues together.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, on that point --
10 and I did. I sent this to Mary Jo Sheridan a
11 few weeks ago. But this issue came up. And I
12 knew it was going to come up because it's
13 happened in the past in terms of the
14 exemptions.

15 So one of the issues that I had a
16 call from an elderly gentleman this afternoon
17 and I'm sure there's a lot more people out
18 there that will be facing the same thing is
19 that they live in a half of double and they
20 don't have -- they don't, you know, rent out
21 one half of it.

22 So they get \$600 tacked onto their
23 property tax bill. In the past they were able
24 to come at the end of the year and based on the
25 fact that, you know, whatever, for the last

1 three years they were exempt, they were able to
2 pay it -- or not pay it. They were able to
3 show that they were -- the property was vacant
4 or that side was vacant at the end of the year.

5 Under this new plan, I guess they
6 are being told they have to shell out the \$300
7 upfront which is not, you know, feasible at
8 all. So I just, you know, whatever we have to
9 do to change that because like I was talking to
10 this gentleman today.

11 And it's hard enough to pay the
12 \$300, never mind 600. Now they told him
13 they'll reimburse him at the end of the year,
14 but that's not just not fair I don't think.

15 MAYOR COGNETTI: No, we've having
16 these conversations for many months. And we
17 agree that it's not -- it shouldn't be
18 difficult to not take that -- to not demand
19 that payment. So we've got to continue to work
20 on it. But the feedback that you guys all get,
21 again, I think that's really important that we
22 be sharing that in realtime, share with us and
23 the Single Tax Office I think at the same time
24 because I don't think this has to be as
25 complicated as it seems.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: Now, do you know -- I
2 don't know if you know off the top of your head
3 because I know these conversations are ongoing,
4 but since the bills already went out, are we
5 expecting people to -- like, what are we
6 telling people because they're being told by
7 the Treasurer's Office -- or the Single Tax
8 Office that they can't -- they have to pay it
9 all upfront.

10 I mean, that's the calls that I'm
11 getting. So what are we telling people who are
12 already getting these bills because they are
13 stressing out that they have to shell out the
14 300. And they don't want to wait the year to
15 get it back because they're not -- they don't
16 have anybody living in these doubles.

17 MAYOR COGNETTI: Yeah, so we're -- I
18 need to talk to Mary Jo about what she -- what
19 it is she wants to advise. I think that's why
20 it's important that we're getting -- that we
21 collect all of the -- all of the folks that are
22 having this issue we need to make sure we have
23 all of that on record so that we can get back
24 to them.

25 I don't think that they should -- if

1 they could afford to pay it, great. If they
2 can't afford to pay it we need to know who
3 they are and work with them because I don't --
4 I don't think that this has to be this hard. I
5 don't see why the Single Tax Office can't take
6 payment on one but not the other.

7 It just -- it's not -- this is -- I
8 believe it's around we think it's about 3 to
9 400 properties. This is also not a huge amount
10 of accounts. And so I think we can solve this.
11 But we need to -- we need to be taking down all
12 that information and then working through it in
13 the coming weeks.

14 We also want people to be able to
15 take advantage of the discount on the, you
16 know, the property that they do get refuse
17 collection for. So we want to make sure we
18 collected that information from those
19 residents.

20 And I think we could get to a
21 solution but having that incoming to our office
22 and to you all and making sure that that's all
23 with the Treasurer's Office and the Single Tax
24 Office.

25 I mean, the Treasurer's Office can

1 collect it and have all that information in one
2 place. And that's really important.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. As long as, you
4 know, if you could keep us up-to-date so that
5 we know what to tell people because we're --
6 I'm sure the calls are going to continue to
7 come into us. So we appreciate it. The other
8 thing I wanted to bring up too and I saw the
9 e-mail from Chief Namiotka about Third Avenue.

10 So as you know, we've talked about
11 it. The situation out there is just -- it's
12 just not right. This street has gone from a
13 quiet residential street now to, you know, a
14 NASCAR type situation where trucks are
15 barrelling up and down at all hours of the day.

16 And I get -- this goes way back even
17 before your administration, but the phone calls
18 do not stop. The e-mails, the calls to our
19 office do not stop. So I understand that it's,
20 you know, a difficult situation. But I know
21 you and Chief Namiotka were out there. So can
22 you just fill us in on what the status is?

23 MAYOR COGNETTI: Yeah, we went out
24 there. I've gone in the summer too. But we
25 went out again. It was good to see it during

1 the winter when the salt trucks are going,
2 right, it's a different -- it's a bit of a
3 different feel.

4 We went out there. And I've asked
5 that they enforce the Jake -- is it the brake
6 retarders to enforce that more heavily which
7 they should have started doing in the last week
8 or so. So we're going to enforce that better.
9 We're also going to look at the sign -- the
10 ordinances and the signage and make sure -- and
11 this isn't just for Third Avenue and Railroad
12 Ave.

13 We need to make sure all of our
14 signs match up with ordinances across the City.
15 I think we maybe have some signs up that
16 don't have ordinances attached to them and vice
17 versa. We might have ordinances but no signs
18 up anymore. So we need to do a review of that,
19 but I think starting with Third Avenue and
20 Railroad Avenue.

21 This is something that we're going
22 to have to work on, right, the real solution is
23 the new bridge which isn't going to happen
24 overnight. And I don't know what the answer is
25 for -- for Third Avenue. You know, it's a --

1 it's something we definitely have to talk
2 about.

3 I know there's, you know, talk of,
4 you know, why don't we build an egress on the
5 other side. You know, I looked at that too.
6 There's a ravine in between Wal-Mart and that
7 property. So I'm not sure -- I'm not sure how
8 easy it would be to build a road. I think it's
9 a -- this is a process. It starts with us
10 enforcing it more.

11 That's the first. And I think we
12 try to work with the residents and the business
13 owner and try to figure out what some -- what
14 some relief can be and then we try to see if we
15 can accelerate the building of that bridge in
16 some way and can we move that up the priority
17 list in some way.

18 And that's something that we haven't
19 looked at yet. But I'd like to explore how do
20 we get that bridge to the top of the list.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Does anybody have any
22 other items or questions?

23 MR. SCHUSTER: So first off, while
24 we're talking about signage, we did -- I know
25 Mr. Gaughan got an e-mail about it. And I got

1 a few. Clearview Street, some of the traffic
2 is coming through -- it's coming up Euclid
3 Avenue to avoid the bridges on Main Avenue
4 there at North Scranton and Tripp Park in West
5 Side where they meet on Main Avenue. So that
6 is something that you received?

7 MAYOR COGNETTI: Yes. Part of
8 that -- part of that, right, we need to be
9 making -- the ordinances and the signs need to
10 match and, you know, other things that we all
11 need to work together to change, absolutely.
12 But I think that will be -- that will be really
13 helpful.

14 MR. SCHUSTER: All right.

15 MR. DONAHUE: And just -- just on
16 that too, like, you know, that bridge on North
17 Main that goes over the expressway, that gets
18 hit like weekly. So, I mean, there has to be
19 something we could do to, you know, stop that
20 from happening.

21 MAYOR COGNETTI: I know. I think we
22 need -- we really -- we need more signs. And
23 they need to be placed before a truck turns
24 onto a street so they're not either trying to
25 back up into traffic or just going anyway. So

1 I think there's a lot of this we can -- we can
2 do a lot better job with the signage and the
3 bridges. It's great to have a sign on a
4 bridge.

5 But if your truck is already in
6 traffic, then what are you going to do? So,
7 you know, we can -- I think we can do a lot
8 better there. And so -- and I would say for
9 you guys, things that you see or that folks
10 that reach out to you, send all of those to
11 Chris and he could continue to collect those
12 and then work those so that Don King and Tom
13 Preambo can -- and also Chief Namiotka.

14 They're -- they work in a group to
15 access these things and make sure that our
16 signage makes sense. And especially with the
17 truck traffic, I know it's not good for a host
18 of reasons.

19 MR. SCHUSTER: And then other than
20 that, the last two weeks we've discussed the
21 Police Chief. Any movement on the Police
22 Chief?

23 MAYOR COGNETTI: Yep. I think you
24 guys will get something soon finalizing that.
25 I'm not going to discuss personnel issues on

1 the --

2 MR. SCHUSTER: Yeah, I know. We're
3 not discussing personnel. I mean, we're past
4 the 35 days. So I think we're all looking to
5 see if there's going to be movement on it.

6 MAYOR COGNETTI: You'll see an
7 appointment very soon.

8 MR. SCHUSTER: All right. Thank
9 you.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yeah, we just want --
11 we've been discussing this. We just want to
12 make sure that we're not -- the City is not
13 violating the Administrative Code because we're
14 way past the 35 days from the appointment.

15 MAYOR COGNETTI: Thirty-five days is
16 a pretty short trial period for a -- for a
17 serious job like that.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Well, I understand
19 that; but that's, you know, that is the
20 Administrative Code. So we want to make sure
21 that we're following it.

22 MAYOR COGNETTI: And we could work
23 to fix the -- change that. We got some other
24 stuff to do but --

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Right. Anybody else

1 have any question or concerns? Mayor, we're
2 supposed to be receiving legislation on the
3 delinquent refuse collector. Is that --

4 MAYOR COGNETTI: That should have
5 gone up at noon today. You should have that on
6 your agenda next week.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. And the other
8 thing that we've talked about is the
9 entertainment fee whether that's a prorated
10 basis or --

11 MAYOR COGNETTI: I think that we're
12 going to do just a percentage like -- so we've
13 been talking a lot about this because we're
14 trying to do kind of a broader code enforcement
15 overhaul as I think you all know. People need
16 relief on some of these things before we get
17 into all of that.

18 So I'd say we're going to do with
19 the entertainment fee -- I think also with the
20 peddler/vendor fee. I think we're going to try
21 to match those and do basically a percentage of
22 them. So like call it 20, 25 percent or
23 something like that where we'll charge just
24 that amount.

25 We do think we should charge

1 something in this year but just a much smaller
2 percentage. So we'll finalize that and get
3 that proposal up to you. I think we might have
4 it ready next -- to go up to you guys next week
5 or to go up to the City -- or to the clerk's
6 office next week.

7 But we're trying to do
8 vendor/peddler and entertainment at the same
9 time again reducing it down to I'd say probably
10 20 percent of what it usually would be. I want
11 to -- I wanted to get away from completely not
12 charging these fees because then I think it's
13 very hard to ramp them back up.

14 I think if we bring them -- bring
15 them down I think that would be good. You
16 know, in some ways similar to the dog license
17 fee, right, we get that back in line -- sorry,
18 it's a little different because we're not doing
19 dog license changes because of COVID.

20 But the theory is if we have a more
21 reasonable fee we'll get more buy-in which is
22 better for us to be able to actually, whether,
23 you know, it's tracking dogs or, you know,
24 being able to know where entertainment and
25 concerts and things are happening.

1 I think some of our fees are
2 onerously high. And I think this is a good
3 start. But that should be coming very soon.
4 We started to get questions about the peddler
5 piece. And I thought we should do those
6 together as a package to you. But we're
7 working on that.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. And, well, are
9 you or the administration going to make some
10 kind of announcement soon about -- to circle
11 back on the exemption issue with the garbage
12 bill in terms of whether people are -- who
13 have -- who usually go for the exemption, like,
14 just when can we expect that?

15 MAYOR COGNETTI: I mean, this is a
16 process with the Single Tax Office that we
17 again have been -- we've been trying to solve
18 this for some time now. I think we can -- we
19 will know -- we'll work through in the next
20 couple of days and Mary Jo Sheridan is going to
21 come to my town hall on Friday.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay.

23 MAYOR COGNETTI: So we'll address
24 this on Friday. And we'll work on this. We'll
25 at least have an answer for how we're advising

1 those people by Friday. And then, you know,
2 the Single Tax Office needs more time on their
3 operations, that's one thing. But we can -- we
4 can finalize what our guidance is by Friday.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. All right.
6 Perfect. We appreciate it.

7 MR. MCANDREW: I have a quick
8 question, Mayor. So we did talk about the
9 garbage fees, you know, two dwellings maybe
10 when there's only one renting there. We have
11 to fix that. But so for the 10 percent garbage
12 fee discount, you can't get it unless you pay
13 your school taxes and City taxes during the
14 discount period, right? Am I correct with
15 that?

16 MAYOR COGNETTI: They are attached,
17 yeah.

18 MR. MCANDREW: But like in order to
19 get the discount you got to pay them all.
20 Like, it's not just a discount for the garbage.
21 You got to pay them all in one shot to get the
22 10 percent for the garbage. Okay. I just want
23 to be clear on that.

24 MAYOR COGNETTI: Yeah, that's --
25 yeah, they're -- it's all one.

1 MR. MCANDREW: No, I understand
2 that. I just want to -- I've been asked so I'm
3 just asking. Thank you.

4 MAYOR COGNETTI: And I -- you know,
5 this is -- we all knew it would not be the most
6 fun transition.

7 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you.
8 Anyone else? All right, Mayor, as always,
9 thank you for coming and keeping us up-to-date.
10 We really appreciate it. And we look forward
11 to continuing to work with you and your
12 administration.

13 MAYOR COGNETTI: Thank you. Yeah,
14 and I'll get you the letter tomorrow.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you very
16 much. Have a good night.

17 ATTY. HAYES: Good night.

18 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Mrs. Reed.

19 MS. REED: Thank you. FIFTH ORDER.
20 5-A. MOTIONS.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Councilman Schuster,
22 any motions or comments tonight?

23 MR. SCHUSTER: No, nothing at this
24 time.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Councilman

1 McAndrew, any motions or comments at this time?

2 MR. MCANDREW: Yeah, I just want to
3 circle back. So last week, you know, we
4 brought up hometown heros program again. And
5 then Jeff did a great article for us. But now
6 here's the thing, it created a lot of
7 excitement.

8 So I'm getting phone calls.
9 Everybody is getting phone calls, different
10 offices, the City. So I just want to let
11 everyone know because even on, you know,
12 Facebook messages that Todd Pousley from
13 NeighborWorks, you know, he's the liaison for
14 the West Scranton Neighborhood Plan.

15 I'm going to talk -- be on a phone
16 call with him tomorrow because supposedly the
17 applications are being crafted now and almost
18 done. And then maybe, you know, the
19 application -- it's definitely going to be
20 posted on the West Side Neighborhood Plan under
21 NeighborWorks.

22 But maybe that application we can
23 have the City help us out and post it on their
24 website. So when I get more information, of
25 course, I'll share it with all of you. That is

1 all I have.

2 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you,
3 Councilman McAndrew. Dr. Rothchild, any
4 motions or comments?

5 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes, I have a couple
6 things real quick. A couple -- a few weeks ago
7 I had e-mailed Mrs. Reed about a property that
8 I received a complaint on and I've received
9 complaints on in the past. And it's been sent
10 over to LIPS many, many times.

11 And I can never seem to get a
12 response regarding this property. I'm going to
13 ask Mrs. Reed to send another correspondence
14 over to that department. So that's with
15 regards to 1352-1354 Sanderson Avenue. There's
16 a number of concerns with that property. And
17 it seems like it may be in need of inspection
18 or might be in violation of City Code.

19 So if I could have her do that
20 again. And the other thing that I just wanted
21 to bring up, regarding our agenda tonight so
22 5-B and 5-C, they're both resolutions adding
23 members to boards and commissions. And, you
24 know, I just wanted to point out that I feel
25 like when I first started on Council and

1 received minutes from the different boards and
2 commissions for the City that -- that there was
3 a real lack of diversity on them.

4 Many of them were -- had all men as
5 members on those boards and commissions. So I
6 think over the past year it seems like the
7 administration is trying to add more women to
8 our boards and commissions. I think we also
9 need more people of color on them, just more
10 diversity because this is something that we
11 can -- that they can control who they choose to
12 appoint to them.

13 I think there should be a continued
14 effort to diversify them. And so I know like
15 the Municipal Recreational Authority has I
16 believe seven members and only two of those
17 members are women. So, you know, it was just a
18 point that I wanted to make and a process for
19 them to continue to appoint diverse candidates
20 to City boards and commissions.

21 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. Thank you.
22 Councilman Donahue, any motions or comments?

23 MR. DONAHUE: I have nothing at this
24 time. Thank you.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. Okay, I

1 have a few. First, I want to make a motion
2 that Council send a letter to the Mayor, to the
3 City Treasurer and to the City Tax Collector
4 objecting to the current exemption process for
5 garbage bills and asking that the process
6 revert to what it was in the past.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: There's been a motion
9 and a second. On the question? On the
10 question, I appreciate that the Mayor
11 addressing this tonight. I do want to make
12 sure that we're on the record here with an
13 official letter to the Mayor, to the Treasurer
14 and to the Single Tax Office.

15 I think it is absolutely ridiculous
16 that our citizens, especially our elderly
17 citizens as I stated to the Mayor and in the
18 caucus tonight not only is it bad enough that
19 they have to pay the \$300.

20 But if they have a half double and
21 they don't have anyone living there and it's
22 vacant and it's been vacant and they've been
23 down there as the gentleman who I talked to
24 earlier today has been down there to show the
25 vacancy at the end of the year and now all of a

1 sudden they're being told, no, shell out the
2 extra 300 and we'll get you at the end of the
3 year.

4 That is just unacceptable,
5 completely unacceptable. And it's got to be
6 changed immediately. And it has to be changed
7 as quickly as possible because there are people
8 who pay these things at a certain time when
9 they get their -- whether they get their income
10 tax refund or whether they get other money or
11 they have money saved up, we can't be at the
12 whim of waiting around for people to figure
13 this out.

14 This has been something that has
15 been talked about and discussed for months, for
16 months. And I had alerted them a while ago
17 about this. So to me it's unacceptable for a
18 gentleman -- one gentleman in particular.
19 There will be more, 80-year-old veteran who
20 doesn't have anybody living next door to him.

21 But now the onus is on him to pay
22 the 300 and get it back at the end of the year.
23 That is outrageous and unacceptable. And
24 that's -- one call I got. I got another call
25 before it. And I'm sure I'll get many more

1 after.

2 There's only as the Mayor stated
3 about 300 to 400 people somewhere in that range
4 who have this situation. Many of them are
5 elderly. And the pandemic actually affects the
6 situation as well because you have people who
7 are living in half a double, elderly people who
8 are renting it out and those people have moved
9 or moved on, can't pay the rent now because of
10 the pandemic.

11 So I just want to make sure we're on
12 the record. This isn't rocket science. It's
13 not anything that should take more than a few
14 days. But we've got to let people know because
15 everyone just got their property tax bill. So
16 now all of a sudden to turn around and say,
17 well, jeez, let's try to figure it out; it's
18 unacceptable, whether the problem lies with the
19 administration or the tax office, I don't
20 really care who it's with.

21 But it needs to get fixed
22 immediately because really, I don't want get
23 another phone call from someone who has lived
24 here their entire lives, who pays their taxes
25 on time and then gets, you know, a curve ball

1 at the last minute that they have to shell this
2 money out. Unacceptable. So anyone else on
3 the question?

4 MR. SCHUSTER: I agree.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: Okay. All those in
6 favor signify by saying aye.

7 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

8 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

9 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

10 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
12 eyes have it and the motion passes. So if we
13 can get that letter out as soon as possible I'd
14 appreciate it.

15 The only other thing I have is on
16 Third Avenue we did speak to the Mayor about
17 that situation. And again, I spoke to a
18 gentleman out there. We really have to
19 think -- and I'm glad the Mayor's committed to
20 looking at this, you know, and trying to find
21 another way to deal with this issue.

22 It's not just one person that's
23 complaining. It's not just two people that are
24 complaining. It's literally every single
25 person on the block. And I think I could speak

Why aren't we holding the companies' feet to the fire? We've got to find out if we could, you know, do something about that. Unfortunately, the bridge has a weight limit on it. But there's got to be some other way to help these people out there.

So hopefully I know the Mayor and the Chief of Police is hopefully working hard on getting that done. And that's all I have. Thank you.

25

1 RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER
2 DAVIS, 801 NORTH IRVING AVENUE, SCRANTON,
3 PENNSYLVANIA, 18510 TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE
4 PLANNING COMMISSION. MS. DAVIS WILL BE
5 REPLACING KATHRYN BORER WHOSE TERM EXPIRED ON
6 DECEMBER 31, 2020. THE TERM OF MS. DAVIS IS
7 EFFECTIVE JANUARY 8, 2021 AND WILL EXPIRE ON
8 DECEMBER 31, 2024.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
10 entertain a motion that Item 5-B be introduced
11 into its proper committee.

12 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

13 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

14 DR. ROTHCHILD: Second.

15 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All
16 those in favor of introduction signify by
17 saying aye.

18 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

19 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

20 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

21 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
23 ayes have it and so moved.

24 MS. REED: 5-C. FOR INTRODUCTION -
25 A RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT OF THOM WELBY,

1 119 PARK DRIVE, SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18505 AS
2 A MEMBER OF THE SCRANTON MUNICIPAL RECREATION
3 AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 2, 2021. MR. WELBY
4 WILL BE REPLACING GERALD J. SMURL WHO RESIGNED
5 DECEMBER 31, 2020. MR. WELBY WILL FILL THE
6 UNEXPIRED TERM OF GERALD J. SMURL WHICH WILL
7 EXPIRE ON MAY 31, 2023.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: At this time I'll
9 entertain a motion that Item 5-C be introduced
10 into its proper committee.

11 MR. DONAHUE: So moved.

12 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All
14 those in favor -- oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead,
15 Tom.

16 MR. SCHUSTER: I don't have a
17 question. I was just going to thank Mr. Smurl
18 for the work he's done there on that board.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes, I agree. He's
20 done a great job. And again, I always mention
21 this. But the Recreation Authority is just
22 doing an unbelievable job up at Nay Aug Park.
23 They really have, you know, brought it to
24 another level up there. Any chance we get we
25 commend them. You know, this is all volunteer

1 work and they're doing a great job. Thank you.

2 All those in favor of introduction
3 signify by saying aye.

4 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

5 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

6 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

7 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
9 ayes have it and so moved.

10 MS. REED: SIXTH ORDER. 6-A.
11 READING BY TITLE - FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 52,
12 2021 - AN ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE
13 COUNCIL NO. 11, 2020 ENTITLED "APPROVING THE
14 TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE OWNED
15 BY OAK STREET EXPRESS, LLC, 610 NORTH MAIN
16 STREET, TAYLOR, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
17 18517 RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NO. R-3114 TO
18 ARADHY DEV BEER, LLC, (THE "MINI MART"), 401
19 WYOMING AVENUE AND MULBERRY STREET, SCRANTON,
20 LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, 18503, AS
21 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL
22 BOARD" TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS PER
23 THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: You've heard reading
25 by title of Item 6-A. What is your pleasure?

1 MR. DONAHUE: I move that Item 6-A
2 pass reading by title.

3 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

4 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All
5 those in favor signify by saying aye.

6 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

7 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

8 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

9 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
11 ayes have it and so moved.

12 MS. REED: 6-B. READING BY TITLE -
13 FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO. 53, 2021 - AN
14 ORDINANCE - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
15 67, 2014 ENTITLED "AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL
16 NO. 52, 1903, ENTITLED 'AN ORDINANCE (AS
17 AMENDED) RELATING TO DOGS, THE LICENSING OF,
18 AND DOG POUND THEREFOR, AND PROVIDING FOR A
19 FUND AND REGULATING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR
20 THE TREATMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF
21 HYDROPHOBIA,' BY DECREASING LICENSE FEES BY
22 AMENDING SECTION 1(A) TO CHANGE THE FEES OF THE
23 CURRENT DOG LICENSES FOR ALL DOGS WITHIN THE
24 CITY LIMITS.

25 MR. GAUGHAN: You've heard reading

1 by title of Item 6-B. What is your pleasure?

2 MR. DONAHUE: I move that Item 6-B
3 pass reading by title.

4 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

5 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? All
6 those in favor by saying aye.

7 MR. SCHUSTER: Aye.

8 MR. MCANDREW: Aye.

9 MR. DONAHUE: Aye.

10 DR. ROTHCHILD: Aye.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: Aye. Opposed? The
12 ayes have it and so moved.

13 MS. REED: SEVENTH ORDER. 7-A. FOR
14 CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE - FOR
15 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 122, 2021 -
16 APPROVING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 147(f) OF
17 THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS
18 AMENDED, A PLAN OF FINANCING OF THE
19 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND WELFARE
20 AUTHORITY AND DECLARING THAT IT IS DESIRABLE
21 FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE
22 PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON FOR THE
23 SCRANTON-LACKAWANNA HEALTH AND WELFARE
24 AUTHORITY TO UNDERTAKE A PROJECT FOR HOWARD
25 GARDNER MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCE CHARTER SCHOOL.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
2 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
3 Committee on Finance?

4 MR. SCHUSTER: As the Chairperson
5 for the Committee on Finance, I recommend final
6 passage of 7-A.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
9 call, please.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

11 MR. SCHUSTER: Yes.

12 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

13 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

14 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

15 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

16 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

17 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

18 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

19 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
20 Item 7-A legally and lawfully adopted.

21 MS. REED: 7-B. FOR CONSIDERATION
22 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS - FOR
23 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 123, 2021 -
24 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
25 CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO

1 EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
2 GREENMAN-PEDERSON, INC (GPI) TO PERFORM CIVIL
3 ENGINEERING AND PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING
4 SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON KEYSER VALLEY
5 STORMWATER AND FLOOD MITIGATION.

6 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
7 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
8 Committee on Public Works?

9 MR. DONAHUE: As the Chairperson for
10 the Committee on Public Works, I recommend
11 final passage of Item 7-B.

12 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? On
14 the question, as I mentioned last week, I can't
15 tell you how many times I've been down as many
16 other Council members in the past have been
17 down in Keyser Valley meeting with neighbors,
18 sitting across the table from them, listening
19 to their unbelievable stories of consistent and
20 constant flood issues in that area.

21 I'm hoping that this is the first
22 step to really tackling this problem once and
23 for all and getting a game plan together on how
24 we mitigate all of the issues out in the Keyser
25 Valley. So again, this is a good first step.

1 And then we'll look forward to what the
2 study -- what the company comes up with. And
3 I'm sure we'll have them in to go over it when
4 they're done.

5 MR. SCHUSTER: Mr. Gaughan, I'd like
6 to echo what you said. It's great to see this
7 starting. And with the grant money and the
8 help of Council, I hope that this project gets
9 done as well as the parking lot over at the
10 Keyser Valley Community Center and everything
11 from the turnpike down to Lackawanna Baseball
12 field.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: Right. Anyone else on
14 the question? Roll call, please.

15 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

16 MR SCHUSTER: Yes.

17 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

18 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

19 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

20 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

22 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
25 Item 7-B legally and lawfully adopted.

1 MS. REED: 7-C. FOR CONSIDERATION
2 BY THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT -
3 FOR ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 124, 2021 -
4 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
5 CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF SCRANTON
6 TO EXECUTE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
7 BENEVATE, INC d/b/a NEIGHBORLY SOFTWARE TO
8 MANAGE THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
9 DEVELOPMENT'S HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
10 GRANT PROGRAMS.

11 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
12 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
13 Committee on Public Works? Oh, I'm sorry, one
14 behind. What is the recommendation of the
15 Chairperson for Committee on Community
16 Development?

17 DR. ROTHCHILD: There you go. As
18 Chair for the Committee on Community
19 Development, I recommend final passage of Item
20 7-C.

21 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
23 call, please.

24 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

25 MR SCHUSTER: Yes.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

2 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

4 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

6 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

8 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
9 Item 7-C legally and lawfully adopted.

10 MS. REED: 7-D. FOR CONSIDERATION
11 BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY - FOR
12 ADOPTION - RESOLUTION NO. 125, 2021 - ACCEPTING
13 A DONATION PROVIDED TO THE CITY OF SCRANTON BY
14 LAMAR ADVERTISING COMPANY FOR SIXTEEN (16)
15 BILLBOARDS TO RELAY THE SCRANTON 311 MESSAGE.

16 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
17 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
18 Committee on Public Safety? Mark, you're
19 muted.

20 MR. MCANDREW: I love that. As
21 Chairperson for the Committee on Public Safety,
22 I recommend final passage of Item 7-D.

23 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

24 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
25 call, please.

1 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

2 MR SCHUSTER: Yes.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

4 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

6 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

8 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

10 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
11 Item 7-D legally and lawfully adopted.

12 MS. REED: 7-E. FOR CONSIDERATION
13 BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES - FOR ADOPTION -
14 RESOLUTION NO. 126, 2021 - APPOINTMENT OF DAVID
15 E. FALCHEK, 1705 CHURCH AVENUE, SCRANTON,
16 PENNSYLVANIA, 18508 AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF
17 ETHICS EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 17, 2021. MR.
18 FALCHEK WILL BE REPLACING BRUCE REDDOCK WHO
19 RESIGNED EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2020. MR. FALCHEK
20 WILL FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF BRUCE REDDOCK
21 WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE AUGUST 31, 2021.

22 MR. GAUGHAN: As Chairperson for the
23 Committee on Rules, I recommend final passage
24 of Item 7-E.

25 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

1 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
2 call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

4 MR. SCHUSTER: Yes.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

6 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

7 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

8 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

9 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

10 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

11 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

12 MR. GAUGHAN: Yes. I hereby declare
13 Item 7-E legally and lawfully adopted.

14 MS. REED: 7-F. PREVIOUSLY TABLED -
15 FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMUNITY ON COMMUNITY
16 DEVELOPMENT FOR ADOPTION - FILE OF THE COUNCIL
17 NO. 43 2021 - AMENDING FILE OF THE COUNCIL NO.
18 118 OF 2017 - ENTITLED AND ORDINANCE
19 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
20 OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON TO TAKE ALL
21 NECESSARY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE CONSOLIDATED
22 SUBMISSION FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
23 DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS TO BE FUNDED UNDER THE
24 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM, HOME
25 INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM AND EMERGENCY

1 SOLUTIONS GRANTS PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD
2 BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2018 BY AMENDING THE 2018
3 ACTION PLAN BY UTILIZING \$15,000 UNDER THE
4 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PREVIOUSLY
5 ALLOCATED TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PARK IT
6 PROGRAM TO HELP LOW INCOME MOTHERS RETAIN
7 SUITABLE HOUSING THROUGH ST. JOSEPH'S CENTER'S
8 MOTHER/INFANT PROGRAM.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: What is the
10 recommendation of the Chairperson for the
11 Committee on Community Development?

12 DR. ROTHCHILD: As Chair of the
13 Committee on Community Development, I recommend
14 final passage of Item 7-F.

15 MR. SCHUSTER: Second.

16 MR. DONAHUE: Second.

17 MR. GAUGHAN: On the question? Roll
18 call, please.

19 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Schuster.

20 MR SCHUSTER: Yes.

21 MS. CARRERA: Mr. McAndrew.

22 MR. MCANDREW: Yes.

23 MS. CARRERA: Dr. Rothchild.

24 DR. ROTHCHILD: Yes.

25 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

1 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

2 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

3 MR. GAUGHAN: I hereby declare --
4 yes. I hereby declare -- I'm jumping the gun
5 tonight. I hereby declare Item 7-F legally and
6 lawfully adopted.

7 MS. REED: EIGHTH ORDER. OLD
8 BUSINESS. Nothing at this time.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Thank you. If there's
10 is no further business, I'll entertain a motion
11 to adjourn.

12 MR. DONAHUE: Motion to adjourn.

13 MR. GAUGHAN: This meeting's
14 adjourned. Thanks everyone. Stay safe. See
15 everybody next week.

16

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

Maria McCool, RPR
Official Court Reporter

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